

THE IDENTITY OF EUPATORIUM FUERTESII

(ASTERACEAE) OF HISPANIOLA

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Eupatorium fuertesii was named by Urban in 1921 with a comparison to E. sinuatum Lamarck, the latter a shrub with similarly shaped leaves occurring in the Greater Antilles. The character differences of E. fuertesii emphasized by Urban were the alternate leaves with pinnate non-reticulate venation, more acute and multinerved involucre bracts, and albo-violaceous flowers. The shape of the corolla lobes was also given as "lanceolato-lineares." The type was cited as "Sta. Domingo in prov. Barahona prope Las Salinas ad ripam Fluminis 100 m. Fl. Sept. Fuertes no. 1394." The type at Berlin is presumed destroyed and the US specimen that agrees in all described features and collection data is here designated as lectotype.

Annotations on the lectotype specimen include two initialled by S.F.Blake. The first dated 1929 says "But this spm. is a Vernonia." The second dated 1935 says "Mixed labels on a mixed collection presumably." The word isotype on the sheet was crossed-out, perhaps at the time of the second annotation. Blake apparently thought the specimen was so clearly a Vernonia that he could not believe Urban would have named such material as a Eupatorium. A third annotation by Sterling C. Keeley at the University of Georgia dated 1977 says "This is not a Vernonia; appears to be a Eupatorium." In evident correlation with this opinion the species is not mentioned in the recent palynological survey of the West Indian species of Vernonia (Keeley & Jones, 1977).

Examination of the lectotype specimen of Eupatorium fuertesii shows that it has vegetative hairs, leaf shape and venation, corolla lobes, anther bases, anther pubescence, endothelial cells, pollen grains, style branches, achene walls and pappus structure of the Vernoniaeae. The species requires transfer to the genus Vernonia where it takes priority over V. barkeri Ekman ex Urban.

Vernonia fuertesii (Urban) H. Robinson, comb. nov.
Eupatorium fuertesii Urban, Feddes Repert. 17: 9

1921. Syn. Vernonia barkeri Ekman ex Urban, Ark. Bot. 23A (11): 49. 1931.

Literature Cited

Keeley, S. C. and S. B. Jones 1977. Taxonomic implications of external pollen morphology to Vernonia (Compositae) in the West Indies. Amer. J. Bot. 64: 576-584.

Urban, I. 1921. III. Sertum antillanum X. Feddes Repert. 17: 6-11.